

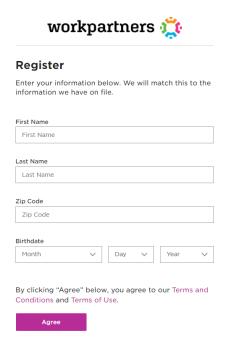
# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS CONSUMER PORTAL USER GUIDE

# Contents

REGISTRATION	3
LOGGING IN	6
REQUESTING AN ABSENCE	7
Requesting a protected absence related to FMLA, PFML or other protected leave policy	9
Reason for Leave	9
Intermittent or Continuous Leave Request	10
Procedural Questions Asked by the Commonwealth	13
Communication Preference	13
Claim Confirmation	14
Reporting a day-to-day absence (Unplanned Absence)	15
VIEWING CASE STATUS AND HISTORY	18
Claims History	18
Uploading Documents	19
Submitting Time on an Open Intermittent Case	20

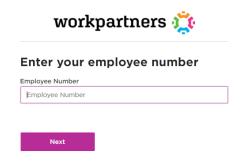
## REGISTRATION

Registration for the Consumer Portal will be completed to verify the user's information and create a username and password via the Consumer Portal Registration link. Each user will input their First Name, Last Name, Home Zip Code and Birthdate to verify their identity based on the demographic data received from the employer. The user may select the "Terms and Conditions" and "Terms of Use" hyperlink to view those documents. Consumer Portal Registration



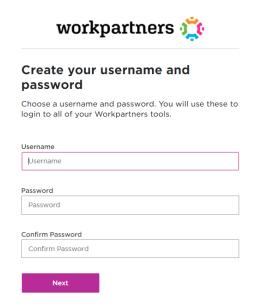
Users who receive an error message when attempting to register should contact the <u>Employee Service</u> <u>Center</u> (ESC) for assistance with verifying their personal information in HR/CMS. The ESC may be reached at 855-447-7778 or via the other contact information listed on their webpage: <a href="https://www.mass.gov/orgs/masshr-employee-service-center-esc">https://www.mass.gov/orgs/masshr-employee-service-center-esc</a>.

After the user enters their demographic information, the user will be prompted to enter their Employee Number. Select "Next".

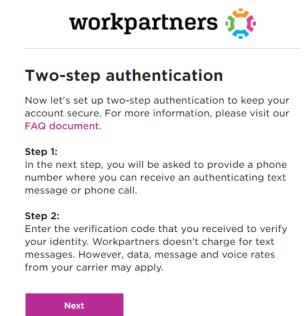


The user will be prompted to create a Username and Password. This will be a unique log in that will be used after the registration process is completed. Select "Next".

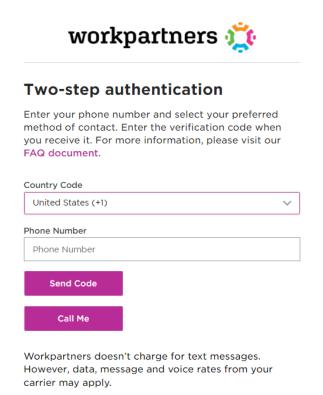
**Note:** Passwords must be between 8 and 16 characters and include an uppercase letter, a number, and a special character.



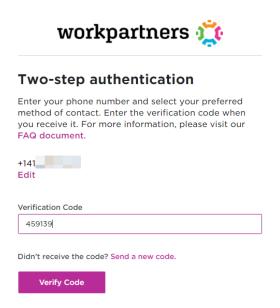
The user will need to follow the Two-Step authentication by reading the instruction and opening the "FAQ document" if needed.



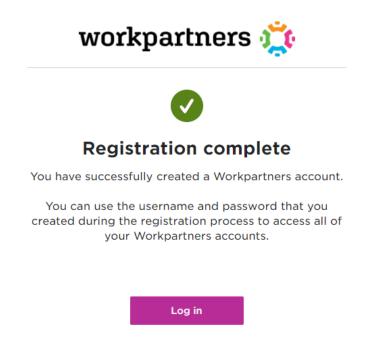
The user will provide their phone number and select to receive a text or phone call with the verification code.



User will enter the Verification Code received and select "Verify Code".



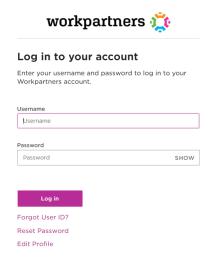
When this step is successfully completed, registration will be confirmed.



If additional help is needed, please contact Workpartners at 1-833-640-2800. Workpartners Intake Customer Service is equipped to troubleshoot log in issues.

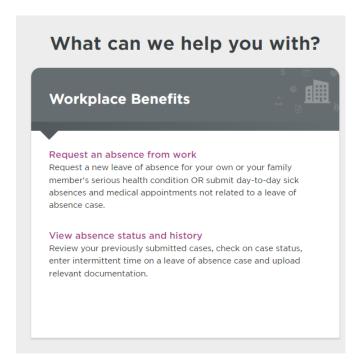
#### **LOGGING IN**

Once registration has been completed, the user may access the Consumer Portal by using their username and password via the log in link. <u>Consumer Portal Log In</u>



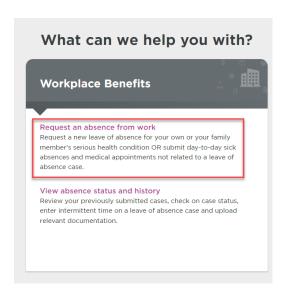
Users may also take steps to retrieve their username or reset their password by selecting the appropriate option and completing the requested information. If additional help is needed, please contact Workpartners at 1-833-640-2800. Workpartners Intake Customer Service is equipped to troubleshoot log in issues.

Once the user is logged in, the welcome dashboard will display with options to request a new absence or view absence status and history.



#### REQUESTING AN ABSENCE

Once logged into the Consumer Portal, select "Request an absence from work" in the left navigation



The user will begin the process of requesting a new absence by selecting "Next" to answer additional questions about the details of the leave of absence.

Before submitting the absence request, we need to ask a few preliminary questions to ensure the correct request is being filed. These questions aim to reduce the number of follow up phone calls and speed along the absence request process.

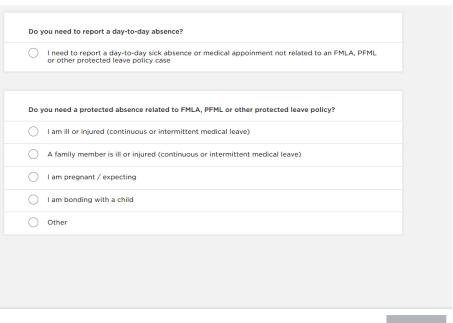
If you need additional assistance with submitting your absence, call Workpartners at 833-640-2800.

Select to file an absence for "Myself" then select "Next".



**Note:** The capability to file an absence for "My employee" is currently unavailable.

Requests submitted through the Consumer Portal are for new Intermittent or Consecutive leave of absence case requests or to submit a day-to-day Unplanned Absence.



NEXT

## Requesting a protected absence related to FMLA, PFML or other protected leave policy

A protected leave of absence case would be requested for a continuous or intermittent absence related to your own illness or injury, a family member's illness or injury, pregnancy, or bonding with a child.

Select the applicable reason for your absence.

**NOTE:** If requesting a leave for "other", the user will be prompted to call Workpartners to complete requesting their leave of absence.

Please contact WorkPartners intake at 833-640-2800 to file this claim request.

Select "Next" and continue to answer all questions necessary to submit the new case request. Some examples of questions that will be asked are as follows:

#### Reason for Leave

The information that the user provides here should best describe the reason for the absence being reported. The reason that the user provides can be either a general reason, such as "doctor's visit," or a specific condition (if the user wishes to disclose one).

The user will need to type text in this field to search for the general reason for the absence. The reason that is provided can be either a general reason, such as "doctor's visit," or a specific condition (if you wish to disclose one). Typing text in this field will begin to display reasons that may be selected or continue to type text if not displayed. Up to five (5) reasons/conditions may be entered, if necessary, but at least one reason must be provided to move forward.

Type text in this field to search for the general reason for your absence. The reason that you provide can be either a general reason, such as "doctor's visit," or a specific condition (if you wish to disclose one). Typing text in this field will begin to display reasons that may be selected or continue to type your text if not displayed. You can add up to five (5) reasons/conditions, if necessary, but at least one reason must be provided to move forward.

Search for condition

Q

You may select up to five (5) options.

**NOTE:** The reason/condition that the user provides here will NOT be included in the absence notifications that are sent to the absent employee's supervisor(s). The reason/condition that the user provides here will only be available to Workpartners staff and the employee's authorized HR professionals when necessary to process or follow up on the employee's absence report.

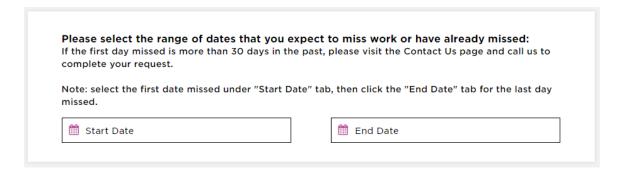
#### Intermittent or Continuous Leave Request

Select if the leave of absence is <u>continuous</u> by answering **Yes** or <u>intermittent</u> by answering **No**. Select "Next".



#### Continuous Leave Request

The user will be prompted to enter the start date and end date of the case request. If time has already been missed, this should be the date of the first day missed from work. If this is a future request, these dates should be the expected start date and end date. *Dates may be updated if needed.* 



#### Intermittent Leave Request

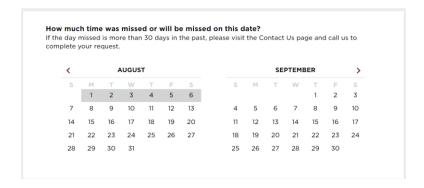
The user will be prompted to report any known absences related to the condition.



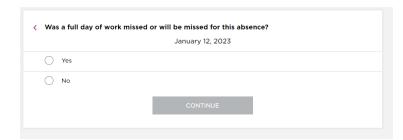
If **No**, no further information is needed on this page. Select "Next".

If Yes, additional absence details will be entered:

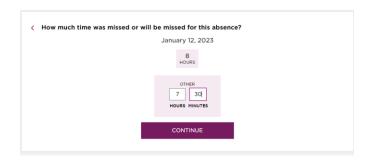
#### Select the date of the absence



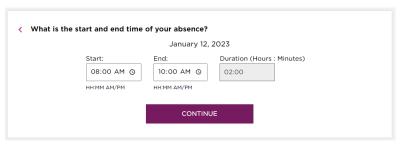
Select if the absence is for a full day of work (select Yes) or a partial day of work (select No)



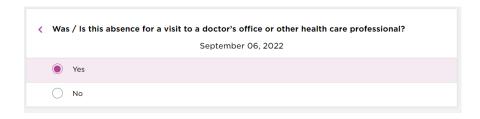
If **Yes**, select Continue and confirm the amount of time missed for your full day. The default will be 8 hours and selecting "Other" will allow the user to enter the time in a text box.



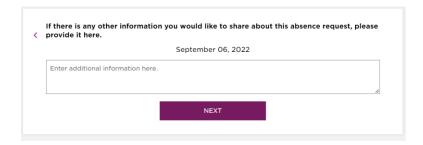
If **No,** Select Continue and enter the Start and End time of the absence. The total time missed will calculate in the Duration box.



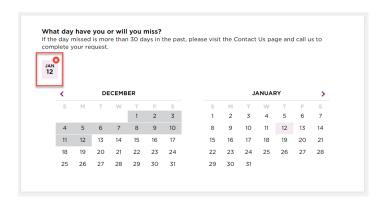
Is the absence for a visit to a doctor or other health care professional? If the absence was due to incapacity without an appointment, select **No.** 



Enter additional details about the absence when applicable. This field is **Not Required**. Select "Next".



The submitted absence will appear, and additional days may be entered. When no more days will be entered, select "Next".



**Note:** Clicking on the date listed will allow the user to edit the absence information. Selecting the red 'x' on any date listed will remove the absence.

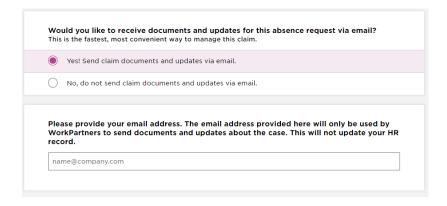
# Procedural Questions Asked by the Commonwealth

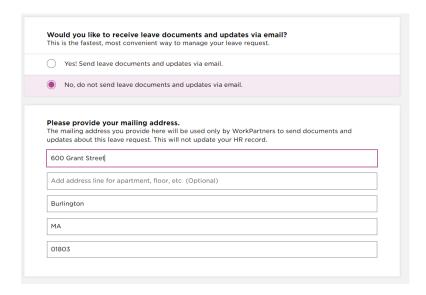
The Commonwealth requires some additional questions about the absence being reported to ensure that payroll, contact tracing, and infection prevention protocols are followed. These include:

talk med	or do you plan to be paid during your leave of absence? (NOTE: It is important to your agency's Workpartners Liaison/HR department about which of these chanisms is the right choice for you and agree to an option with them to minin uption to your payroll and/or benefits.)	payment	
$\bigcirc$	Employer Paid - employee only uses their accrued sick and/or other accrued balance (expersonal, vacation) for duration of the leave	ex. comp,	
0	DFML Only - during PFML leave only, employee would apply and receive pay through t and is unpaid with their agency	he DFML	
$\bigcirc$	Employer Paid to DFML – during PFML leave only, employee uses their accrued sick pay up to the allowed time under the reason or other accrued time, and also apply & receive pay through the DFML benefit upon completion of accrued time		
0	Unpaid – employee does not receive any pay from their agency nor from the Departme and Medical Leave (DFML) for time off	nt of Family	
	Is your absence due to a work-related illness or injury?		
	Yes		
	○ No		

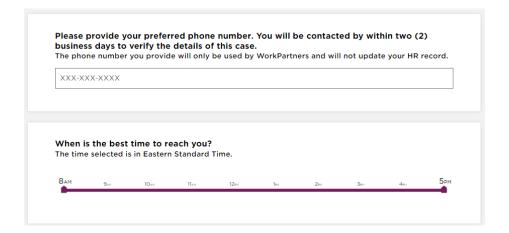
#### Communication Preference

The user will be able to select their preference for how they would like to receive documents related to their leave of absence request.





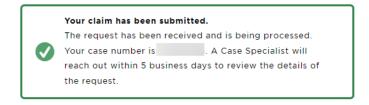
The user will also be asked to provide their preferred phone number and when to be contacted by a Specialist regarding their leave of absence.



#### Claim Confirmation

A summary of the request will display with the capability to edit each section if needed.

Once all questions are completed and reviewed for accuracy, the user will submit the claim. The user will receive a claim confirmation with the case number for reference.



## Reporting a day-to-day absence (Unplanned Absence)

A day-to-day or unplanned absence would be submitted for a sick absence or a medical appointment that is not related to an FMLA, PFML or other protected leave policy case.

Select the applicable option for the day-to-day absence and Select Next.

Select who the absence is for. If selecting "other" there will be a prompt to enter the relationship.



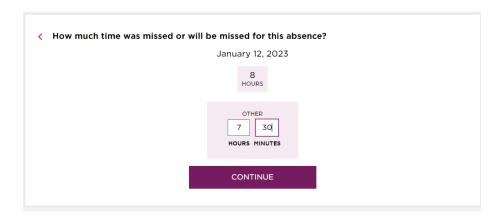
Enter the date of the absence that is being reported. Absences may be reported up to one day in the past to cover shifts that span multiple days and up to 60 days in the future.



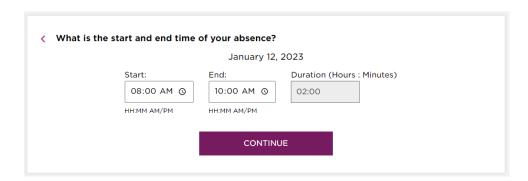
Select if the absence is for a full day of work (select Yes) or a partial day of work (select No)



If **Yes**, select Continue and confirm the amount of time missed for your full day. The default will be 8 hours and selecting "Other" will allow the user to enter the time in a text box.

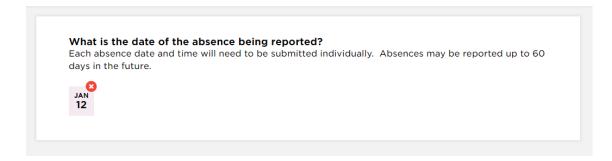


If **No**, Select Continue and enter the Start and End time of the absence. The total time missed will calculate in the Duration box.



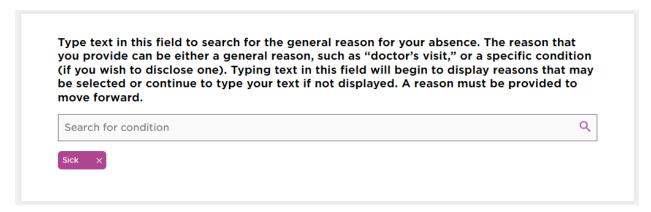
The date of the absence being reported will be present for review. Each Unplanned Absence must be submitted individually. There will be a prompt after submission to enter another absence if needed.

**Note:** Clicking on the date listed will allow the user to edit the absence information. Selecting the red 'x' on any date listed will remove the absence.



The information that the user provides here should best describe the reason for the absence being reported. The reason that the user provides can be either a general reason, such as "doctor's visit," or a specific condition (if the user wishes to disclose one).

The user will need to type text in this field to search for the general reason for the absence. The reason that is provided can be either a general reason, such as "doctor's visit," or a specific condition (if you wish to disclose one). Typing text in this field will begin to display reasons that may be selected or continue to type text if not displayed. Unplanned Absences only allow for one (1) reason and a reason must be provided to move forward.



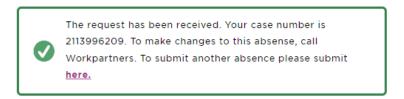
The Commonwealth requires some additional questions about the absence being reported to ensure that payroll, contact tracing, and infection prevention protocols are followed. These include:



A summary of the request will display with the capability to edit each section if needed.

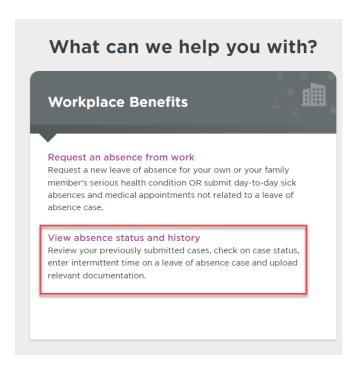
Once all questions are completed and reviewed for accuracy, the user will submit the absence. The user will receive a confirmation with the case number for reference.

The user will also be able to select the link to submit an additional absence if needed.



#### VIEWING CASE STATUS AND HISTORY

Users are able to view status and details of current and historical cases in the Consumer Portal. Select the "View absence status and history" to access cases.



The Absence Status and History page will provide information on cases for both unplanned absences and leaves of absence. Unplanned absences (Employee Sick and Family Sick) will always appear as pending because authority to approve unplanned absences remains with the employee's department, not Workpartners. The claims history provides a record of all unplanned absences reported to Workpartners, even if the unplanned absence was later cancelled by the employee

#### Claims History

The claims history will provide a listing of all current or historical cases and absences. This listing will provide the case number, case dates and case reason. Selecting "View More" will provide case policies and details of each policy.



Selecting the purple arrow will allow the user to see details of that specific case only.

# **Claims History**



Selecting "View Timeline" will provide a bar graph of each policy status and dates and how they may interact with multiple policies.



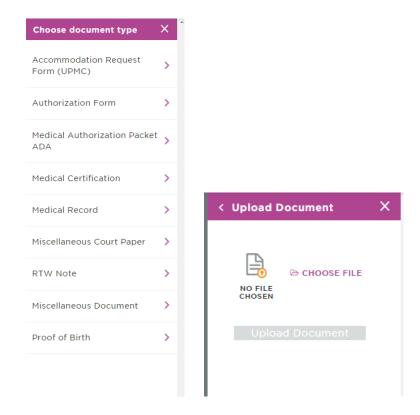
# **Uploading Documents**

Users are able to upload required documents regarding the leave of absence case. Select "Add Document" to start the upload process.

# **Claims History**



Select the Document Type that will be uploaded and select "Choose File" to select the saved document to upload to the case.



# Submitting Time on an Open Intermittent Case

Users are able to submit time to an open intermittent case.

Select the correct open intermittent case that time is being reported for by selecting the purple arrow. Select to "Submit New Absence Time."

# **Claims History**

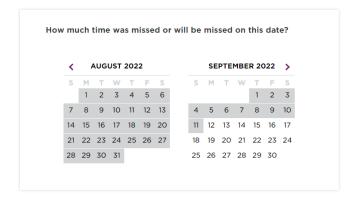


Select the date of the absence being reported

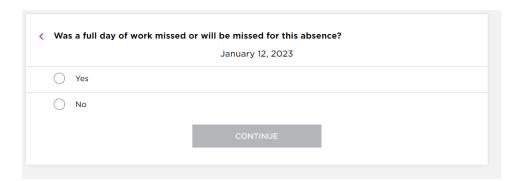
#### Submit new absence time

Case #1916346348

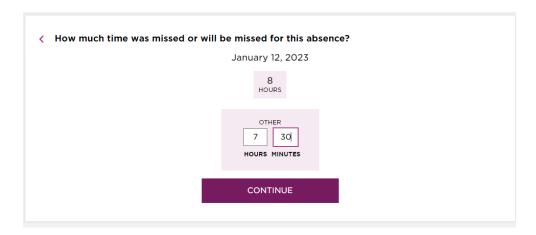
Back to claim details



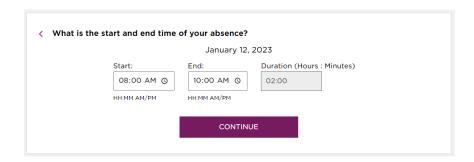
Select if the absence is for a full day of work (select Yes) or a partial day of work (select No)



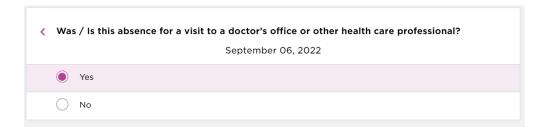
If **Yes**, select Continue and confirm the amount of time missed for your full day. The default will be 8 hours and selecting "Other" will allow the user to enter the time in a text box.



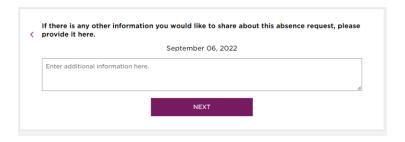
If **No**, Select Continue and enter the Start and End time of the absence. The total time missed will calculate in the Duration box.



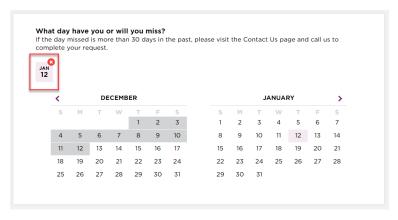
Is the absence for a visit to a doctor or other health care professional? If the absence was due to incapacity without an appointment, select **No.** 



Enter additional details about the absence when applicable. This field is **Not Required**. Select "Next".

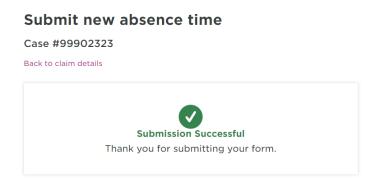


The submitted absence will appear, and additional days may be entered. When no more days will be entered, select "Submit Absence".



**Note:** Clicking on the date listed will allow the user to edit the absence information. Selecting the red  $\dot{x}$  on any date listed will remove the absence.

A confirmation of the submitted absence will appear.



**Note:** At this time, absences that have been submitted cannot be edited or deleted through the Consumer Portal. If an edit or deletion is needed, please contact Workpartners at 1-833-640-2800 for assistance.